

DOCKET NO. 1539.1008

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re the Application of:

Motoo KOYAMA, et al.

Serial No. 09/836,430

Group Art Unit: 2851

Confirmation No.: 6838

Filed: April 18, 2001

Examiner: Hung Nguyen

For: OPTICAL APPARATUS, EXPOSURE APPARATUS, AND EXPOSURE METHOD

**LETTER TO THE EXAMINER REQUESTING CONFIRMATION OF ALLOWED CLAIMS**

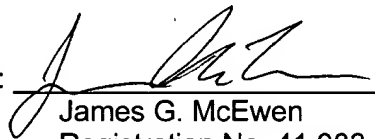
Mail Stop Issue Fee  
Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Further to the Notice of Allowability mailed August 20, 2003 in which the Examiner allows claims 1-4, 6-22, and 24-27, it is noted that claim 27 was cancelled in the Amendment filed July 25, 2003. As such, it is assumed that the Examiner intended to allow claims 1-4, 6-22, and 24-26. If this assumption is in error, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner so advise the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

By:   
James G. McEwen  
Registration No. 41,983

1201 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 700  
Washington, D.C. 20005  
Telephone: (202) 434-1500  
Facsimile: (202) 434-1501

Date: SEPT 5, 2003